

PRESBYTERY
68 Crooms Hill,
Greenwich,
London,
SE10 8HG
0208 858 0662

PARISH PRIEST
Rev. Fr Thomas Lynch
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PARISH DEACON
Rev. Duncan Aitkins

PARISH SECRETARY
Leigh Ott
greenwichwest@rcaos.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING
Sophie Sadler
Greenwichsg4@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

PARISH WEBSITE
ourladyestarofteseagreenwich.church

DOMINICAN CONVENT
38 Hyde Vale
SE10 8QH
Tel: 020 8692 3382

DONATIONS

Nat West Bank
Sort code: 60-09-16
Account number: 25240676
Account Name: RCAS Greenwich

*This parish is part of the RCAOS registered
Charity Number 1173050*

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

ST. URSULA'S GIRLS CONVENT SCHOOL

Head Mr O'Shaughnessy
Crooms Hill
SE10 8HN
Tel: 020 8858 4613

ST. JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Ms. Long
Commerell Street
SE10 9AN
Tel. 02088584182

LAST WEEK

COLLECTION
GIFT AID - £33.00
NON-GIFT AID - £322.90

ATTENDANCE
305



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

NOVEMBER- DEDICATED TO THE HOLY SOULS

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MISSAL: PRAYERS AND READINGS pg. 82

SATURDAY 29th November

6.00pm Vigil Mass

Eileen Girderstone RIP

SUNDAY 30th November 1st SUNDAY of ADVENT

9.00am Sung Mass

June Ott RIP (Birthday)

11.00am Sung mass

Lorraine Farren RIP (Anniversary)

MONDAY 1st December

SAINTS EDMUND CAMPION, RALPH SHERWIN and ALEXANDER BRIANT

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Holy Mass

People of the Parish

TUESDAY 2nd December

FERIA

6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00pm Holy Mass

In Reparation

WEDNESDAY 3rd December

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Holy Mass

All Migrant People

THURSDAY 4th December

SAINT JOHN DAMACENE

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Holy Mass

Chad Bennet (Birthday)

FRIDAY 5th December

FERIA

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Holy Mass

Penny Modena and Chrissey Gash RIP

(FRIDAY ABSTINENCE)

SATURDAY 6th December

SAINT NICHOLAS

6.00pm Vigil Mass

The Priest and People of OLSS

SUNDAY 7th December 2nd SUNDAY of ADVENT

9.00am Sung mass

People of the Parish

11.00am Sung mass

David Lear RIP

Confessions

Saturdays at 10.00am – 10.30am and 5pm - 5.30pm. After
weekday Mass – please sit by the confessional.

Adoration

One hour before every weekday mass.

Spiritual Thought

This weekend we begin again the church's year, with Advent, the royal season.

For many Catholics Advent is their favourite season of the church's year, it is gentle, beautiful, full of family, music, saints and angels. We busy ourselves in preparation for meeting family and friends and expressing our love through gifts and being present to each other.

Sadly, as we know, the holy season of Advent has been squeezed into oblivion by commercialism – how many people really know, beyond buying a treat advent calendar, what this season means, or that it exists at all? Advent is about expectation, preparation and delayed gratification – things impossible to package and sell. But for us in the church Advent still has meaning – literally the word *Advent* means “The Coming” – at the beginning of Advent we remember and prepare for the second coming of Christ, when he will come in his glory, when the Kingdom, which at the moment is hidden and small, will be revealed.

We then enter the expectation of St. John the Baptist – a key figure of waiting and preparing. The man whose divine vocation was to wait, and point out the messiah when he comes.

Finally, we look to the birth of Jesus, the people and events around which he was born. We travel backwards, from the future kingdom, to the past, the birth of the King. All this prepares us for the great celebration of Christmas.

Can I gently encourage you, as much as possible, to remember Advent, to mark it, even as it is forgotten by the world. There are various ways we can do this – delaying as much as possible the putting up of decorations replaced perhaps by advent candles, fasting from something (it is a penitential season after all), by deciding to make a really good confession, keeping within ourselves an expectation and desire for Jesus to enter more fully our lives.

If we can hold on to Advent then Christmas itself becomes deeper, our rejoicing more heartfelt.

Fr Tom's Induction Mass

The induction of a new parish priest is very important for a parish – the episcopal vicar Canon Victor Darlington will lead Fr Tom in the profession of faith, and various promises for serving the parish, and then invite all the parishioners to pray, as well as ecumenical and social representatives who are present.

There may be 200 or so people in attendance, from various parishes Fr Tom has worked in, hopefully as many of our parishioners will be able to be present too. If you would be able to help provide food and drink for the reception in the school hall that would be greatly appreciated, sign up sheets can be found in the porch. The Mass will be next Saturday 6th December at 6pm.

Parish Restoration Update

After the amazing news of Andrew Carmichael's legacy, this is just a short update on the Parish Restoration Project. Great work has been done by our parish volunteers in uncovering the original church floor – this work will be completed after Christmas.

Fr Tom and Brian met with the conservation architect, the heritage advisor and the head of the Bishop's patrimony committee, to narrow down the focus of our first National Lottery bid to a few essential works – the preservation of the main stained glass, the roofs and guttering and the uncovering of the original ceiling. I will write more as the bid is written and submitted, so we all know what is happening. But for now, thank you for your prayers and support. Much needs to be done, but all things are possible with God.

Christmas Hampers

Maggie has prepared the most wonderful hampers this year, which are being raffled for the Restoration Fund. Please see the table at the back of the church. Tickets are £2 a strip, and the raffled will be drawn after the 11am Mass on Sunday 7th December.

Wintertime 2026: Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th January Cost £139: For aged 11 – 15

For altars servers and those who attend Sunday mass regularly aged 11 -15. See poster for details. Forms will be available, or you can contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, dartford@rcaos.org.uk. It takes place at Westminster Pastoral centre, Pinner. Names need to be known by 15th December, and forms received by Fr. Stephen Boyle by the 20th December. There are limited numbers, so we recommend booking early to book a place. A coach will be put on from St. Anselm's Dartford at a cost of £20 return

A Message from the Manna Centre

We have been given the wonderful opportunity to have our donations doubled up until 29th December – whoopee! The Aviva Community Fund (ACF) will match all donations made (up to a maximum of £250 per donation). Our page can be accessed via the red 'Donate' button on our website <https://www.mannasociety.org.uk/> Our target is to raise £48,000 - one month's running costs for the Manna Centre. The Manna Centre provides help, housing and meals for the London Homeless at London Bridge.

November Holy Souls Lists

This is the last Sunday in November, so our last chance to add names to our Holy Souls list – although of course, we pray for the Holy souls throughout the year.

Parish Calendars 2026

Brian and the restoration team have produced a beautiful parish calendar. They are available, at only £5 each, at the back of the church. Any profit will go toward the restoration fund. They can be paid for in cash, at the DONA machine, or by scanning the adjacent QR code.

Greenwich Deanery Advent Service

The Greenwich Deanery Pastoral Council has organised an Advent Service, of prayers, readings and opportunities for confession. The service will begin at 3pm on Sunday 30th November at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Charlton. All are welcome.